

1.

Come to me, you, the contented citizens of the world, you who live in a country where only happiness, joy and pleasure may dwell.

Come to me, you whose country is surrounded by modern Chinese Walls, so that the hooves of the cruel demon may not reach you.

Arise, my friends, leave the warm and tranquil palaces in which you have found shelter, gather your courage and accompany me in my wanderings throughout the continent of Europe, where Satan has proclaimed his rule.

2.

- 5. Februar, Zug-Nr. PJ 107 verlässt Bialystok um 9 Uhr mit zweitausend Reisenden. Ankunft in Auschwitz am nächsten Tag um 7:57 Uhr. Anzahl der Rückreisenden: Keine.
 - 7. Februar, Zug-Nr. PJ 117 verlässt Bialystok um 9 Uhr mit zweitausend Reisenden. Ankunft in Treblinka am nächsten Tag um 12:10 Uhr.
 - 9. Februar, Zug-Nr. PJ 127 verlässt Bialystok um 9 Uhr mit zweitausend Reisenden. Ankunft in Treblinka am nächsten Tag um 12:10 Uhr.
 - 9. Februar, Zug-Nr. LP 128 verlässt Treblinka um 9:28 Uhr. Ankunft in Bialystok am nächsten Tag um 1:30 Uhr. Anzahl der Reisenden: Keine.
 - 10. Februar, Zug-Nr. PJ 129 verlässt Bialystok um 9 Uhr mit zweitausend Reisenden in Richtung Treblinka.
 - 10. Februar, Zug-Nr. LP 130 verlässt Treblinka um 9 Uhr in Richtung Bialystok. Anzahl der Reisenden: Keine.
 - 11. Februar, Zug-Nr. PJ 131, zweitausend Reisende nach Treblinka.
 - 11. Februar, Zug-Nr. LP 132 verlässt Treblinka um 9:28 Uhr in Richtung Bialystok. Anzahl der Reisenden: Keine.
 - 12. Februar, Zug-Nr. PJ 133, zweitausend Reisende. Ankunft in Treblinka: 12:10 Uhr.
 - 13. Februar, Zug-Nr. PJ 136 verlässt Bialystok um 9 Uhr mit zweitausend Reisenden in Richtung Treblinka.
 - 13. Februar, Zug-Nr. LP 137, Anzahl der Reisenden: Keine.
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- 5th February, train number PJ 107 carrying two thousand passengers, departing Bialystok at 9:00AM arriving to Auschwitz at 7:57AM the next day, returning empty.
 - 7th February, train number PJ 117 carrying two thousand passengers, departing Bialystok at 9:00AM arriving to Treblinka at 12:10AM the next day.
 - 9th February, train number PJ 127 carrying two thousand passengers, departing Bialystok at 9:00AM arriving to Treblinka at 12:10AM.
 - 9th February, train number LP 128 returning empty, departing Treblinka at 9:28PM arriving to Bialystok at 1:30AM the next day.
 - 10th February, train number PJ 129, two thousand passengers, departing Bialystok at 9:00AM en route Treblinka.
 - 10th February, train number LP 130 returning empty, departing Treblinka at 9:28PM en route Bialystok.
 - 11th February, train number PJ 131, two thousand passengers, en route Treblinka.
 - 11th February, train number LP 132 returning empty, departing Treblinka at 9:28PM en route Bialystok.
 - 12th February, train number PJ 133, two thousand passengers, arriving to Treblinka at 12:10AM.
 - 13th February, train number PJ 136, two thousand passengers, departing Bialystok at 9:00AM en route Treblinka.
 - 13th February, train number LP 137 returning empty.

3.

To where are we heading?

Unknown destination.

– We are locked in a cattle car –

Eighty people – trapped.

– We've run out of water –

And the way has no end.

– Bodies lie among us

and cannot be removed.

“The railroads, were but the means to an end.”

“The railroads *were* in fact the end”

The railroads were the means to death.

We were promised freedom.

4.

The train stops at a little station. Armed S.S. – men are seated between the tracks. It is no use dreaming of escape. The train moves off. We are hungry and cold. Men lie about drowsy, indifferent. The night and another day pass. The train moves off. We are hungry and cold. Men lie about drowsy, indifferent. The night and another day pass. On the second night the train stops at a station for the whole night. On our right we hear the roar of the soviet guns. It is too late for us.

As we were being removed from the train our first view was SS–men with guns and guard dogs. The SS–guards told us to leave the little belongings we had.

As I stood in line a stranger tapped me on the shoulders from behind and said:

“Little Boy, stand on your feet! stand on your toes when you come up to the German SS. Make yourself taller!”

I stretched and strained, somehow knowing that my life depended upon the stranger's advice.

He was selected to work in a road gang while his parents and younger brother were taken to the gas chambers.

5.

My darling,

On this, the last night of my life, I bid you farewell. Our days of happiness were short-lived, but beautiful. At this moment I am remembering our love, from its beautiful beginning until its cruel end. You were the love of my life, and I would willingly have sacrificed everything to save you. And our innocent little Otto – why has it been decreed that this rough, ruthless hand should put an end to his short life?

6.

'Bezüglich der Judenfrage ist der Führer entschlossen, reinen Tisch zu machen. Er hat den Juden prophezeit, daß, wenn sie noch einmai einen Weltkrieg herbeiführen würden, sie dabei ihre Vernichtung erleben würden. Das ist keine Phrase gewesen. Der Weltkrieg ist da, die Vernichtung des Judentums muß die notwendige Folge sein.

Referring to the Jewish Question, the Führer is determined to clear the table. He prophesied to the Jews that if they brought about another world war, they would experience their own annihilation in doing so. That was no empty talk. The world war is here. The annihilation of Jewry must be the necessary consequence.

7.

A theatre of horrors, a mob stage,
Presenting a caste of unique actors
an innumerable variety of
characters and faces,
having its own stage-setters and
staff technicians, ushers, mess service personnel,
quartermasters, nurses, doctors,
auxiliary services, watchmen,
transport guards and all the people around,
all obeying the waving of a
magic wand.

8.

Receiving alarming reports stating that in the Führer's Headquarters, a plan has been discussed, and is under consideration, according to which all Jews in countries occupied or controlled by Germany numbering three and a half to four millions should, after deportation and concentration in the East, be at one blow exterminated, in order to resolve once and for all the Jewish question in Europe. Action is reported to be planned for the autumn. Ways of execution are still being discussed including the use of prussic acid. Our informant is reported to have close connections with the highest German authorities, and his reports are generally reliable. Please inform and consult New York.

. . . A plan. . .

9.

The report has earmarks of war rumor inspired by fear and what is commonly understood to be the actually miserable condition of these refugees who face decimation as result of physical maltreatment, persecution and scarcely endurable privations, malnutrition and disease.

. . . listen. . .

10.

As for your letter. . . I will tell you frankly that we are not inclined to accept all of its contents verbatim. Just a one should. . . learn from experience sometimes to accept. . . unimaginable action as indisputable facts, so should one learn from history to. . . distinguish between reality – however harsh it may be – and imagination aggravated by justified fear.

A theatre of horrors
A mob stage
Blind Eye to Murder

11.

- Der Transportzug 35 verlässt mit 1000 Juden Bourget-Drancy in Richtung Auschwitz.
 - Der Transportzug 36] verlässt mit 1000 Juden Bourget-Drancy in Richtung Auschwitz.
 - Der Transportzug 37 verlässt mit 1000 Juden Bourget-Drancy in Richtung Auschwitz.
 - Der Transportzug SA 225 verlässt mit 1100 Juden Rom in Richtung Auschwitz.
 - Der Transportzug SA 227 verlässt mit 1200 Juden Rom in Richtung Auschwitz.
 - Der Transportzug DA 13 verlässt mit 600 Juden Berlin in Richtung Auschwitz.
 - Der Transportzug DA 15 verlässt mit 800] Juden Berlin in Richtung Auschwitz.
 - Der Transportzug PJ 163 verlässt 600 Juden Grodno in Richtung Treblinka.
 - Der Transportzug 110 verlässt mit 700 Juden Zamość in Richtung Auschwitz.
 - Der Transportzug DA 17 verlässt mit 700 Juden Berlin in Richtung Auschwitz.
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- Transport train 35 departing Bourget-Drancy en route Auschwitz carrying thousand Jews.
 - Transport train 36 departing Bourget-Drancy en route Auschwitz carrying thousand Jews.
 - Transport train 37 departing Bourget-Drancy en route Auschwitz carrying thousand Jews.
 - Transport train SA 225 departing Rome en route Auschwitz carrying 1100 Jews.
 - Transport train SA 227 departing Rome en route Auschwitz carrying 1200 Jews.
 - Transport train DA 13 departing Berlin en route Auschwitz carrying 600 Jews.
 - Transport train DA 15 departing Berlin en route Auschwitz carrying 800 Jews.
 - Transport train PJ 163 departing Grodno en route Treblinka carrying 600 Jews.
 - Transport train 110 departing Zamość en route Auschwitz carrying 700 Jews.
 - Transport train DA 17 departing Berlin en route Auschwitz carrying 700 Jews.

Listen,
Hear us,
We are all dying
Hear us.

12.

I can not relate to all I saw: it is beyond the power of any human being to describe all that I witnessed personally. Shortly after I had crossed the Polish border I got in touch with a number of diplomatic representatives of Great Britain and told them what I had witnessed. They listened to me politely, showed a great deal of sympathy, but gave me to understand that in view of my horrifying experience it was my overwrought imagination that was painting macabre pictures, and all that I related could be only partially true...

... The Evidence ...

... The Facts. ...

13.

You wanted a survey of the position of the Jews in Europe. You wanted facts and figures. Have I stated the facts? some of them, but very few. Think of the facts behind the facts, of the rivers of tears and the streams of blood and the naked bodies, the bleeding feet and the crying children. . . Think of the stench and the filth; think of the biting cold and the gnawing hunger, the black despair in millions of hearts.

Try to think of the last thoughts of the three Jews who were paraded through a Polish town and hanged for having tried to obtain some food from non-Jews. Feel the feelings of the Jewish mother in Paris who threw her six children, and then herself out of the window when the police came to take her away to a camp and then to Poland.

Think of the facts behind the facts, of the rivers of tears and the streams of blood and the naked bodies, the bleeding feet and the crying children. . .

Have I stated the facts?

I have written four thousand words and I have said nothing

Use your imagination, friend.

14.

Germany no longer persecutes the Jews. It is systematically exterminating them. The new racist policy was revealed to me by a British officer who escaped the hell of the Himmler Ghetto.

For several months now, the Third Reich has been brutally destroying the Jewish population by two effective means: starvation and mass execution.

We are at the presence of a crime without a name.

15.

Kochana Matus,

Teraz jesten sam.

Pan tak kaze I tak musi byc.

Jak mozesz to ratuj.

Ja I ty zostalismy kolkami

Twój słodki Natus

Dear Mother,

I am all alone now.

The lord says so, so it must be.

If you can, save me.

You and I become dead objects (wooden pegs,) all alone

Your sweet Natus.

We are at the presence of a crime without a name.

Save them!

In God's name – save them!

16.

In Gods name we appeal do maximum snatch innocent men women children from Nazi Shambles. Make supreme effort. Open wide gates.

. . . Open wide gates. . .

17.

Dear Namir,

You will remember that on the 1st of December you raised the question of the possible release of the 793 Jewish refugees who reached Palestine in the Steam Ship Darien.

The secretary of State has now fully considered the matter. He is not, however, prepared to release of these illegal immigrants who, in accordance with the declared policy, will remain in detention until it proves possible to move them to Mauritius or elsewhere.

18.

Es ist seltsam, dass all die Staaten, die sich öffentlich für die Juden einsetzen, sich ständig weigern, die Juden bei sich aufzunehmen. Sie behaupten, sie seien Genies der Wirtschaft, des Staates, der Philosophie, der Poesie. . . doch wenn wir ihnen diese Genies übergeben wollen, dann machen sie ihre Grenzen zu: ‚Nein, nein! Wir wollen sie nicht!‘
Es ist doch einzigartig in der Weltgeschichte, dass man wahre Genies ablehnt.“

It is strange that all those states, which intervene for the Jews in their public opinion, constantly refuse to accept the Jews from us. They say they are great pioneers of culture, geniuses of economy, geniuses of statesmanship, geniuses of philosophy and poetry, but when we want to entrust these geniuses to them, then they close their borders: “No, no! We do not want them!” I think this is a unique example in the world’s history, to refuse geniuses.

19.

This time the Colonial Office is really carrying too far its policy. American public opinion would protest against our inhumanity: “You won’t help these people yourselves; and now you won’t let us help them.” In the spirit though not in the letter, American public opinion would be right. Such action on our part would savour of real malice against the refugees, more worthy of our enemies than of us.

20.

If the will be strong enough and the heart be stout enough, then efforts to rescue will be made and will succeed. If we remain feeble and complacent, then death alone will have its way. Let no possible sanctuary be closed, whether in America or elsewhere. Let each door of refuge be opened and kept open. This is the Christian way.

21.

With the arrest and transport to Poland of tens of thousands of Jews, a new and difficult problem has been created for the Swiss authorities. Several hundred “illegal” refugees have crossed the frontier. While until now – with very few exceptions – all refugees had been “legalised” so that they would remain here – authorities in Berne now decided to stop this influx and to send back a number of those who during the last weeks had arrived here. You can easily imagine what it meant for these unfortunate people. They were not actually handed over to the Gestapo, but were led to the frontier and forced to cross it. Nobody knows what then happened to them.

22.

They were arrested by a German military detachment and brought to a place where thousands of Jews and Poles were being concentrated, civilians and military alike. They were four days and four nights on the way, without being given any bread to eat or water to drink. Men who had no strength left in them to move their legs, were shot. I have seen with my own eyes, how a young Polish pilot approached an officer and told him that he was unable to go on. The officer did not even bother to reply; he drew his revolver and shot him right away.

23.

The United Nations are fighting to make a world in which tyranny and aggression can not exist; a world based upon freedom, equality and justice; a world in which all persons regarding of race, color or creed may live in peace, honor and dignity.

We call upon the free peoples of Europe and Asia temporarily to open their frontiers to all victims of oppression. We shall find havens of refuge for them, and we shall find them means for their maintenance until the tyrant is driven from their homelands and they may return.

Freedom, equality and justice
Peace, honor and dignity

24.

The general policy has been not to admit during the war additional refugees unless in some quite rare and exceptional cases it can be shown that the admission of the refugee will be directly advantageous to our war effort. Any departure from this rigid policy is liable to fresh claims and additional pressure of persons who are in danger or distress, and I am convinced that it would not be right to make any general departure from the principle.

25.

If men with such philosophy continue in control, we may as well take down that plaque from the statue of liberty and blackout "the lamp beside the golden door."

26.

This is the order of events in Auschwitz to which, 12,000 Jewish souls – men, women, children, the old, the sick and the healthy – are being taken daily to be choked, to be burned and to be manure to the fields. And you, brother Jews! And you, ministers of states in all countries? How can you keep quiet at this murder? In the name of the blood of the millions and the tears of millions, we beg you, we plead with you, we claim and demand of you: do something immediately!

27.

How well are you sleeping?

28.

Ktoś powie, że to był rok tylko –
Trzy razy po cztery miesiące;
Ja powiem, że to dni były i noce się nie kończące.

Dzień dwanaście miał godzin,
Noc siedemset minut miała,
Minuta – sześćdziesiąt sekund.
A każda sekunda bolała.

Someone will say it was only a year
three times four months,
But I say there were days and nights without
end.
Each day had twelve hours,
each night seven hundred minutes,
each minute sixty seconds,
And each second – immeasurable pain.

29.

On August 7, 1944, a special raid by sixty-four fighter jets and seventy-six bombers of the US Air Force bombed the oil refineries at Trzebina, 13 miles northeast of Auschwitz. On August 20, a raid by the 15th US Air Force began at 10:32PM, dropping a total of 1336 explosive bombs on G. I Farben synthetic oil and rubber plant located less than five miles from the Birkenau gas chambers. On August 25, American airplanes again flew over Auschwitz and took detailed photos of the camp, railways, gas chambers, crematoria and even a group on its way to death. On September 13, the US Air Force re-attacked the G. I Farben factory, accidentally dropping a cluster of bombs on Auschwitz I. Additional attacks followed.

30.

Help. . .
Drop the bombs on Auschwitz
So we may escape the helpless death of the gas chambers.
Hear us,
Parachute weapons,
Here we are,
hear us.

31.

To Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin:

The Death Factory at Auschwitz and the crematoria that were built at Birkenau have not stopped working to this very day. Thus, we must renew our suggestion in the name of the entire Jewish nation: save those few still wavering between life and death. Destroy the extermination camp at Auschwitz and other camps in the area, just as you destroy factories producing gasoline, weapons and ammunition. The people waiting their turn in line for annihilation have nothing to lose but their deaths in the gas chambers, and maybe some of them will be spared, and manage to escape in the uproar. The destruction of Auschwitz will prevent hundreds of thousands from being brought to their deaths over the space of several days, giving many thousands the chance to be spared from certain death. The blood of millions of victims of Nazi extermination camps calls out to you, the blood of millions of Jews cries for help: Save those few remnants who can still be rescued. The target is beyond the maximum range of medium bombardment, dive bombers and fighter bombers.

Five miles away. . . only five miles away. . .
Here we are. . .

32.

At the present critical stage of the war in Europe, our strategic air forces are engaged in the destruction of industrial target systems so vital to our effort that we cannot afford diversion. The targets suggested are not a part of these target systems and therefore the military value of the proposed effort is doubtful.

33.

CAD D/F dated 23 June 44 forwards to OPD for necessary action paraphrase of cable concerning air bombardment of railroad centers to impede deportation of Jews to Poland, which message had been forwarded to the CAD. As this message was referred to the Civil Affairs Division for appropriate action, the Operations Division does not consider that it is appropriate for OPD to make reply. Therefore, action taken by OPD was to furnish CAD with a suggested reply to be made by CAD.

Hear us, save us,
Can't you see us?
We are all dying.
Bomb the tracks and stop the killing.
Here we are. . .

34.

Why are you silent! And why are you not doing anything? Why are those railroad tracks without a breach, and why have they not been blown up? Have we not sent you nearly a hundred telegrams and many letters to tell you that every day the expulsion transports travel that route? And Auschwitz still stands in its place and the gas chambers and ovens still operate. What could be easier than to interrupt their operation and blow them up?

35.

I recommend no action be taken on this, since the matter has been fully presented several times previously.

36.

Had the will been strong enough and the heart stout enough then efforts to rescue would have been made and succeeded. Since we remained feeble, since we remained complacent, since we remained. . .

37.

Perhaps some of the blame falls on me,
because I kept silent, uttered no cry,
waiting that at least one man should cry out:
“No!” but no one cried.

Only one thing was left – the patience to wait,
to wait that justice might prevail one day.

Perhaps that was part of my blame,
That I kept silent, did not speak.
As though I had nothing to say.

English Translations: Evan Fallenberg

German Translations: Carola Emrich-Fisher

Polish Translation: Blanka Bednarz

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- 1) Zalman Gradowski (The scrolls of Auschwitz)
 - 2) Authentic train schedules from 1942.
 - 3) Collected testimonies
 - 4) From Survivors' testimony
 - 5) Ellie Kulka, whilst waiting to be taken to the gas chamber. Originally in Czech. Stephen Jolly, English translation.
 - 6) Internal Nazi memorandum, based in Hitler's speech.
 - 7) Karel Fleishmann, Terezin camp
 - 8) Riegner Telegram – 10 August 1942.
 - 9) Harrison (state department)
 - 10) Lauterbach, Jerusalem, September 1942
 - 11) Authentic train schedules
 - 12) Jan Karski's testimony
 - 13) Lichtheim, Switzerland, 18, September 42
 - 14) Report of an American official in Lisbon
 - 15) Note give to a mother, after her son was taken. Poland.
 - 16) A Telegram sent to Roosevelt and Churchill from Jerusalem
 - 17) British Colonial Office
 - 18) Internal Nazi memorandum, quoting Joseph Göbbels
 - 19) A minute by Latham
 - 20) Manifesto by the Bergson Group, address to the US senate.
 - 21) Zionist office in Switzerland
 - 22) Evidence of S.T (Warshaw)
 - 23) President Roosevelt's speech, 24 March 1944
 - 24) British Foreign Office
 - 25) Report of Josiah DuBois to the secretary of treasury
 - 26) Rabbi Weissmandl 16 May 1944
 - 27) The Bergson Group Newspaper ad
 - 28) Written by a young Jewish woman. Found in Auschwitz
 - 29) Collected reports
 - 30) Fragments from survivors' testimonies, Auschwitz
 - 31) Rabbi Weissmandl
 - 32) Memorandum for the assistant secretary of war
 - 33) US War Department
 - 34) Rabbi Weissmandl
 - 35) US War Department
 - 36) See 20.
 - 37) Anonymous